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Single Taxon Treatment

Description of a new *Pselaphodes* Westwood (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae: Pselaphinae) from Vietnam

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Abstract

Background

A new species of the genus *Pselaphodes* Westwood, *P. fansipanensis* Bekchiev & Yin sp. n., is described from northern Vietnam. The unique modification of the antennomeres 9–10 of the male readily separates the new species from all known congeners.

New information

New *Pselaphodes* species from Vietnam

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Keywords

Asia, Indochina, Tyrini, taxonomy, new species

Introduction

The Pselaphinae (Coleoptera: Staphylinidae) fauna of Vietnam is poorly studied. Until now, 112 species (Bekchiev 2010, Nomura 2013, Nomura and Pham 2019) have been known from the country. The diversity of habitats and environmental conditions in Vietnam implies that the diversity of pselaphine fauna may be much greater. A total of 65 species of *Pselaphodes* (Tyrini) have been described, all from the Oriental region - China, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Thailand, the Philippines and East Malaysia (see Huang et al. 2018 for checklist and distributional map) and two additional unnamed species were recently reported from Vietnam (Nomura and Pham 2019).

In September 2018, a short expedition to southern and northern Vietnam was organised by the Institute of Ecology and Works Protection (Hanoi) and the National Museum of Natural History (Sofia), giving the opportunity to collect rich zoological material. One of the visited localities was Fansipan Mountain and, especially, the Fansipan Summit. It is the highest (3,143 metres a.s.l.) mountain in the Indochinese Peninsula (including Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia), hence its nickname "the Roof of Indochina".

Included in the material was a new *Pselaphodes* species, which is described below.

Materials and methods

The material was collected in an open habitat with shrubs and grasses (Fig. 1) by soil and litter sifting.

Specimens were examined by Zeiss Stemi 2000C stereo-microscopes. Male genitalia and other dissected parts were studied using a Zeiss transmitted-light microscope at magnifications up to 500x. Genital segments were dissected and treated with potassium hydroxide (KOH). The dissected parts were mounted in Euparal and pinned with the relevant specimen.

The following acronyms are used in the text: BL—length of the body (= HL + PL + EL + AL); HL—length of the head from the anterior clypeal margin to the occipital constriction; HW—width of the head across eyes; PL— length of the pronotum along the midline; PW—maximum width of the pronotum; EL—length of the elytra along the suture; EW—maximum width of the elytra; AL—length of dorsally visible part of the abdomen along the midline; AW—maximum width of the abdomen; NMNHS – National Museum of Natural History, Sofia, Bulgaria